

**Claims:**

1. A crystal modification A of tegaserod hydrogen maleate.

- 5 2. A crystal modification A of tegaserod hydrogen maleate, comprising the following characteristic crystal structure, determined by means of an X-ray single crystal analysis:

10	crystal system	triclinic
	space group	P-1
	a, Å	8.640
	b, Å	15.800
	c, Å	17.572
	$\alpha$ , Å	68.67
	$\beta$ , Å	88.10
15	$\gamma$ , Å	88.02
	V, Å <sup>3</sup>	2232
	Z	4
	D(calc), g/cm <sup>3</sup>	1.242

- 20 3. A crystal modification A of tegaserod hydrogen maleate, which has an X-ray powder diffraction pattern comprising the following characteristic peak positions as  $2\Theta$  values:  $5.4\pm 0.3^\circ$ ,  $5.9\pm 0.3^\circ$ ,  $6.4\pm 0.3^\circ$ ,  $10.8\pm 0.3^\circ$ ,  $16.2\pm 0.3^\circ$ ,  $19.3\pm 0.3^\circ$ ,  $21.7\pm 0.3^\circ$  and  $26.8\pm 0.3^\circ$ .

- 25 4. A crystal modification A of tegaserod hydrogen maleate, having in the thermogram in differential scanning calorimetry an endothermic signal at about  $190^\circ\text{C}$ .

5. The crystal modification according to claims 1 to 4 in essentially pure form.

- 30 6. A crystal modification A of tegaserod hydrogen maleate, having in the thermogram in differential scanning calorimetry one thermal signal at about  $190^\circ\text{C}$ .

7. A crystal modification A of tegaserod hydrogen maleate, consisting of the following characteristic crystal structure, determined by means of an X-ray single crystal

- 35 analysis:

crystal system	triclinic
space group	P-1
a, Å	8.640

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5	b, Å	15.800
	c, Å	17.572
	$\alpha$ , Å	68.67
	$\beta$ , Å	88.10
	$\gamma$ , Å	88.02
	V, Å <sup>3</sup>	2232
	Z	4
	D(calc), g/cm <sup>3</sup>	1.242

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8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent and a therapeutically effective amount of crystal modification A of tegaserod hydrogen maleate according to claims 1 to 7.

15 9. The use of a modification according to any of claims 1 to 5 for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of irritable bowel syndrome, gastro-esophageal reflux disease, functional dyspepsia, chronic constipation or diarrhea.

20 10. A method of treating irritable bowel syndrome, gastro-esophageal reflux disease, functional dyspepsia, chronic constipation or diarrhea comprising administering to subject in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of crystal modification A of tegaserod hydrogen maleate according to any of claims 1 to 5.

25 11. A process for the preparation of a crystal modification A of tegaserod hydrogen maleate according to any of claims 1 to 5 comprising the step of crystallization or recrystallization of any form, or mixtures of any forms of tegaserod hydrogen maleate in a solution consisting of organic solvent or mixture of organic solvents saturated with water.

30 12. The process of claim 11, wherein the organic solvent is an acetate ester.

13. The process of claim 11, wherein the organic solvent is ethyl acetate ester.

35 14. The process according to any of claims 11 to 13, wherein the water is present between 0.01 and 5 weight % water of the total weight of said solution consisting of organic solvent or mixture of organic solvents and water.

15. The process according to any of claims 11 to 13, wherein the water is present in an amount in which the water is just soluble in said solution comprising an organic solvent and water.

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16. The process according to claim 13, whereas the water is present at around 2.8 weight % water of the total weight of said solution comprising an organic solvent and water.